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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/672,650	09/28/2000	John H. Cook III	10003744-1	7966

7590 01/22/2004

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES
Legal Department, 51U-PD
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 58043
Santa Clara, CA 95052-8043

EXAMINER

CHASE, SHELLY A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2133

DATE MAILED: 01/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/672,650

Applicant(s)

COOK ET AL.

Examiner

Shelly A Chase

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 to 9 are presented for examination.

Specification

2. The objection to the abstract is withdrawn.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to because of the problems addressed in the attached PTO-948.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
5. Claims 1 to 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Luk (USP 6055661) in view of Hii et al. (USP 5422892).

6. Claims 1 to 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by.

Claim 1:

Luk substantially teaches the claimed invention. Luk teaches a method for testing integrated circuits comprising the steps of: writing input patterns to a known good integrated circuit (KGIC) [115] on a target system [110] and corresponding input signals to the DUT IC [125] on the tester [120] (see fig. 1 and col. 5, lines 20 et seq.), which reads on "applying the same sequence of transmit vectors to the memory under

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test and to a work memory within the memory tester.” Luk also teaches the output signal from the KGIC and the output signal from the DUT are compared in a comparison circuit to detect faults (see col. 7, lines 13 to 27).

Luk fail to clearly teach storing the test pattern data within the memories; however, Hii in an analogous art teaches a method for testing integrated circuits wherein a test pattern is written to and stored in a DUT and a comparator compared the stored test pattern of the DUT with the stored test pattern in the device tester (see col. 2, lines 64 et seq.). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify testing the DUT of Luk by incorporating storing the test patterns in the DUT and the tester memory as taught by Hii. This modification would have been obvious because a person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ a method for decrease the time and the complexity with testing memory devices as taught by Hii.

As per claims 2 and 3, Luk teaches the input signals applied to the DUT and to the KGIC are delayed by a delay control [140] (see col. 5, lines 45 to 55); interpreted as “the same sequence of transmit vectors is an instance of that sequence” and “the same sequence of transmit vectors is separate instances of that sequence.”

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 4 to 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Response to Arguments

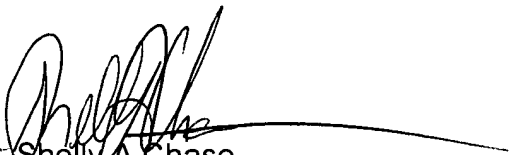
8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 to 9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shelly A Chase whose telephone number is 703-308-7246. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on 703-305-9595. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.



Shelly A Chase